

3 Polit. Pamph. vol 97
THE

MUG

VINDICATED:

To which is prefix'd,
An Account of the Rise, Progress, and
Constitution, of those Loyal Societies.

BEING

An Answer to the popular Objections of the
Faction against them, contain'd in Sir
H. M's Malicious and Scurrilous Libel,
address'd to the Parliament, and Enti-
tul'd, *Down with the Mug, or Reasons for
suppressing the Mughouses.*

King George for Ever.

Mughouse Cry.

L O N D O N:

Printed for S. Popping at the Black-Raven in Pater-noster-
Row. 1717. Price Six Pence.

THE
M U G

To the most noble

VIRIDICATED
J H O M A S

To which is added
An Account of the Royal Society
of London, of their first Society



to vindicate the Com
munity of a great Number
of myne citizens Subjects
who for their undoubted
zeal in promoting the In
terest of their King and
Country have drawn on
them



To the most noble

T H O M A S

Duke of New-Castle.

My Lord,

THE profess'd Design of the following Paper, being to vindicate the Conduct of a great Number of my Fellow Subjects, who for their undaunted Zeal in promoting the Interest of their King and Country, have drawn on

IV *Dedication.*

themselves the unjust Aspersions of the Enemies to both ; it would be almost preposterous not to Dedicate it to that great Personage, who has done more for the same glorious Cause than any young Nobleman of the Age in which he lives ; and the World will so readily allow this to be the Character of the Duke of *New-Castle*, that 'twere even needless, on that Account, to prefix his Name hereto ; but your *Grace* will easily excuse my Boldness in doing so, since it proceeded from the Honest, and I hope not ungenerous

Dedication. V

nerous Ambition of a young *Writer* to appear in publick under such a *Patron*, as can screen him from the most vigorous Efforts either of Malice or Envy.

As we have an Instance wherein Fortune has once rightly bestowed her Favours, so 'tis obvious that your *Grace* possesses them with an uncommon Advantage; those who are beneath you daren't wish you had 'em not; nor do such as are plac'd on the Level, endeavour to imitate you in the good you do with them. Thus

the delight which accrues from the Opportunities a *Plenty* gives you of supplying the Wants of others, seems to be much greater than the satisfaction you take in the Enjoyment of it yourself; and you are no otherwise pleas'd that you have all the good Things this Life affords, than as a charitable Distribution of them will conduce to the making Life less Burthenfome to any of your Fellow-Creatures.

My to remember you and that

Dedication. VII

My Lord,

If there should be such Monsters amongst your Countrymen, as refuse to acknowledge your good Qualities, and benign Disposition, I'll venture to say they are unworthy to be call'd *Britons*; and tho' none of us can be grateful in proportion to the Benefits we receive in common, as such, yet I must so far do Justice to the Loyal Societies, in whose behalf I am now particularly concern'd, as to assure your *Grace*, that they never fail to remember you, and that

VIII *Dedication.*

in so hearty a manner as demonstrates their Affection to be sincere, and to be deriv'd from a true Sense of your Merit.

Now as I have often observ'd this with the greatest Pleasure, being what was most agreeable to my own Inclinations, so I am not able to resist the desire I feel within me of taking the present occasion to subscribe myself,

My Lord,

Your Grace's most obedient,

most devoted,

and very humble Servant,

J. BLENNMAN.

P R E F A C E.

By another Hand.

I Have often been desir'd by Friends in the Country, to send them a particular Account of our Mughouses, and being now a fresh Importun'd by several of them who have heard of that Malicious Pamphlet, which occasion'd the following Answer, I thought I could not let slip this Opportunity of granting their Request, and was resolv'd to give a Copy of it to my ingenious Friend Mr. Blenman, to be prefix'd, if he thought fit, to this Answer which he has desir'd me to publish in Vindication of the Mughouses, and which I think he has so well perform'd, that it needs not the usual Recommendation of a Preface to explain or set it off; so that nothing remains for me, but for the satisfaction of several Friends who never were at Mughouses, to give a short Historical Account of their Rise, Progress, Constitution, and good Success.

The first that I ever heard call'd a Mughouse, was set up above 20 Years ago, and still continues at the Sign of the Mug in Long-Acre, from whence every one will suppose it had the Name. It was for many Years frequented, by a mix'd number of Whigs and Tories, who met there to drink Healths, and sing merry Songs by Word of Command. As either of these Party's got the Ascendant, the Queen was put before the Church, or the Church before the Queen; and I myself, even since his Majesty's Accession, have heard their old President drink in one Toast to the Church and King. But to the Honour of their Society, tho' they excus'd the old Gentleman's Hysteron Proteron, they depos'd him for wear-
ing

ing Oak Boughs on the 29th of May last, and chose a Gentleman to succeed him, who has ever since fill'd the Chair with Reputation both to himself and the Society.

But the first Mughouse (properly so call'd) which was open'd in the present happy Reign, and which gave Rise to all the others in this City and Kingdom, was that at the Mug in St. John's-Lane, founded almost a twelve Month since by my Friend above-mention'd, a Gentleman, who put on this Motto with the Long Robe, viz. PRO LEGE & REGE, and who, by his Conduct ever since, has made it evident that he thought he could not better adorn the Gown, than by being as zealous to encourage and propagate Loyalty, as he was to study and practise the Law. But I forbear to take any farther freedom with his Character, lest I should offend his Modesty, and lose his Friendship. Thus much for the Rise of the Mug-houses: I shall now speak of their Progress.

And here the Roebuck Mughouse in Cheapside deserves to be nam'd in the Front, not only as it was the first Mughouse within the Walls, but because here met a Loyal Society of young Men, who made a gallant Opposition to the Jacobite Mobs, both in the late and present Reigns, long before they set up the Standard of the Mug, which we find they did not do till last Summer.

The next Mughouses open'd in the City, were at Mr. Read's Coffee-house in Salisbury-Court in Fleet-street, and at the Harp in Tower-street, and another at the Roebuck in Whitechappel.

About the same time several other Mughouses were erected in the Suburbs, for the Reception and Entertainment of the like Loyal Societies, viz. one at the Ship in Tavestock-street Covent-Garden, which is mostly frequented by Loyal Officers of the Army. Another at the Black Horse in Queen-street near Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, set up, and carry'd on by Gentlemen, Servants to that noble Patron of Loyalty, to whom this Vindication of it is inscrib'd. A third was set up at the Nags-

Nags-Head in James-street Covent-Garden, a fourth at the Fleece in Burleigh-street near Exeter-Exchange, a fifth at the Hand and Tench near the 7 Dials, several in Spittle-Fields, by the French Refugees, one in Southwark-Park, and another in the Artillery-Ground.

In the mean time we heard of the Roebuck at Norwich, and of other Mughouses set up in York, Exeter, and other parts of the Country, but I leave them to be as Merry as they are Loyal, and return to London to give the farther Account which I propos'd of those Societies who have most distinguish'd their Loyalty, and made the greatest Figure.

As the Constitution of 'em comes next to be considered, I shall under this Head, speak of their Order, Method, Entertainments, and Diversions.

The Societies of each Mughouse, meet twice or thrice a Week to refresh and divert themselves by drinking Loyal Healths, bearing Loyal Songs, and conversing with those of their own Loyal Principles.

Whether there are more Dissenters than Moderate Churchmen in these Societies I will not venture to affirm, but this I can say from my own certain Knowledge, that they are made up of both, and that they consist for most part of Men, who in the worst of Times were hiss'd at for being Whigs, bully'd or prosecuted if they did but talk or write for the Protestant Succession, or British Liberty, and who were forced to meet privately for a Discourse on Politicks, for fear their Conversation shou'd be betray'd by a Tribe of Tory Wretches that infested the Coffee-Houses and were called Lions, not for their Courage or Sagacity, but for being Beasts of Prey.

What honest Tory, who remembers this Restraint which the Whigs lay under till the Demise of the late Queen, can blame them for gratifying their Zeal at a Mughouse, where they can proclaim with a sort of publick Triumph, what before they could only whisper in a Cor-

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ner; I mean their Affection to the Hanover Family, their Respect to our faithful Allies the Dutch, and their Grateful Remembrance of the blessed King William.

Nevertheless, tho' the Whigs upon his Majesty's Accession, were as full of Joy as Men could be, for an Event attended with so many Great and Happy Circumstances, yet they were equally cautious of shewing it in that publick Manner, they have since done at the Mughouses, for fear of provoking the deluded Populace, who had not yet recover'd their Senses, and had not that prospect which the Whigs then had in View of the Virtues of his Majesty, and the Blessings of his Government.

Therefore we did not hear of one Mughouse set up in the first Year of his Majesty's Reign, but when the Malecontent Spirit of Discord, strove with Might and Main to hinder his Majesty's Establishment on the Throne, and in the Affections of his People; when for this End our King and Royal Family were scandalously revil'd, our Ministry traduced, and the honest Clergy expos'd to Scorn; when Places of Divine Worship were destroy'd by pretended Sons of the Church, a sort of Pioneers, who would have serv'd much better at the Demolition of Dunkirk or Mardyke; when the 6th of February, the 23d of April, the 29th of May, and the 10th of June, were turn'd into days of Rioting and Desolation, to keep up the Memory of the late Queen's Birth and Coronation, her Uncles Restoration, and the Birth of her pretended Brother, while the 28th of May, the 1st of August, and the 20th of October, were odiously distinguish'd by the same disaffected Party in their wearing Green Boughs, Thyme, and Rue, as days of Humiliation for the Birth, Accession, and Coronation of his present most excellent Majesty; and when at last a Vile unnatural Rebellion was set on foot by the same abandon'd Highchurch Party, in Conjunction with profess'd Papists, both at Home and Abroad, to subvert our Happy Government,

to Murder the King and the Royal Family, and to Massacre his Protestant Subjects: Then it was, and not till then, that the Zealous Inhabitants of London and Westminster, did Form themselves into voluntary Societies, to suppress the Rage of the disaffected Mobs at Home, while his Majesty's Gallant Officers and Soldiers ventur'd their Lives for the same glorious Cause in remoter Countys. What success the latter has had, is already too well known, and I design to mention that of the former in its proper place.

In the mean time I shall proceed, as I propos'd, to give an Account of the Order of the Mughouses, their Entertainments, and Diversions.

Every Society has one or more Settled or Occasional Presidents chose by themselves. These take the Chair in turn, proclaim the publick Healths to the Company, and direct the Songs. As they bear the chief Character there, while they are in the Chair, so we find that they have a distinguishing Respect paid them by the Society's in St. John's Lane, and at the Roebuck, which being a Formality not us'd in any other Society that I know of, I shall here briefly relate it. At 7 or 8 a Clock in the Evening when 'tis time to take the Chair, the President for the Night is conducted to it in this Manner. First, a Servant goes with two Candles; then the Musick, which consists of a Violin or Trumpet, or both; then another Servant carrying two more Candles; then a Member of the Society, who carries the President's Silver Mug, and his Mallet on a Plate; after him comes Mr. President, supported on each side by one of his Brethren, carrying a long Staff, and attended by several of the Members bare-headed, till he comes to the Chair, when the Members fall back in good order to their Places, and the Presidents sit on each side their Brother in the Chair. Then the President, after appointing a Vice-President at the other End of the Room, drinking the Company's Health, and receiving the like

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Compliment from them, calls Silence for the King's Health, which, after his naming it, every one with a Mug in his Hand drinks, standing and uncover'd, either with Huzzas or Clappings; as they do in like manner the Healths of the Royal Family, and when they drink to the Glorious Memory of King William, and to the Prosperity of the Churches of England and Scotland, as they are severally by Law established. After these Healths are dispatch'd, they drink to some or other of the Ministry ad libitum; and between each Health the President calls for some loyal merry Song, or honest ingenious Copy of Verses. At Intervals they are diverted with their Musick, and a good Song well sung never fails of a brisk Chorus while 'tis singing, nor of a hearty Clap when 'tis ended; at which time the President and Company drink the Gentleman's Health, to which they often tack that of the Author or Poet. With this innocent Mirth they spend the Evening, and after having made a Collection for their Musick, at 10 or 11 a Clock, the President names his Successor for the ensuing Night, and is then attended from the Chair with the same Formality as at first.

Before I leave this Head, it may not be amiss to take notice, that in most of these Mughouses, the Societies have procur'd the Picture of his Majesty, finely painted at length, or half length, to adorn their Rooms, while they are commemorating the Great Original. And the Roebuck Society in Cheapside has moreover this Motto writ in large Capitals over the President's Chair, viz. **SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX**; i. e. The Safety of the People is the Supreme Law; for the Preservation of which they have bright Arms, and loyal Numbers to carry them.

Now the Usefulness and the Necessity of the Mughouses will appear, in great part, from the Success they have had, with which I shall conclude.

The

The Muggites having set up these Nurseries of Loyalty, and thereby given such an Instance of their warm Zeal and Affection to King GEORGE, as is not to be parallel'd in the Annals of any Reign since the Conquest; the Jacobites soon foresaw that these Whiggish Garrisons, as they call'd 'em, wou'd prove a continual Thorn in their Sides. They flatter'd themselves, that notwithstanding their ill Success in the last Rebellion, they could easily work up another and a more formidable one, in the Capital of the Kingdom, by their hired Mobs. And for this end, they took in the Blue Regiment of Bridewell, to reinforce their Bodies from the Bear-Garden and the Shambles. These were detach'd on publick Nights with great Clubs and Stones to disturb all peaceable Rejoicings that were made in honour of his Majesty, or the Glorious Revolution; and to insult such as wou'd not join in their treasonable Cries of High-Church and Ormond; No Presbyterians; No Hanover; Down with the Mug.

But such was the convenient Situation of the Mughouses, and the friendly Communication betwixt them, that, without the Assistance of the Civil Power, they sent out small Parties from their own Societies, who being arm'd with Resolution, and encourag'd by the Justice of their Cause, beat far greater Bodies of the Mob at their own Weapons, and made them cry out, King George. And here I cannot but remember the Cheap-side Society in particular, which being the most numerous, distinguish'd their Bravery upon so many Occasions, that the News of a Sally from the Roebuck often put the cowardly Mobs to the Rout. After so many repeated Disasters, and hearty Drubbings, any, except a Tory Mob, would have kept to their Stalls and Bulks; but their Leaders had more Villany for them to commit, and this even in the Centre of the City, and in the face of the Sun, at Noon-day, when no Opposition cou'd be expected from the Mughouses. This was no less than an open Rebel-

Rebellion; for on the 24th of July last they assembled a Rascally Mob, who came from all Parts with Clubs and Stones, to Salisbury Court in Fleet-street, where, with the seditious Cries abovemention'd, they batter'd Mr. Read's Mughouse from Morning till Noon; and then, in defiance of Constables and Proclamations, and tho' their Leader, who belong'd to the Blue-Jacket Regiment, was shot dead in the Attempt; they pull'd down the Sign of the Mug, sent it about the Streets in triumph, enter'd the House, gutted it, and had raz'd it to the Ground (as they threaten'd to all the other Mughouses) if a Detachment of the Guards had not come in good time, and dispers'd them. By this means several of the Rioters were taken in the House, and five of 'em (one of whom was Servant to some Rebels in Newgate) were not long after try'd and condemn'd for it at the Old Baily, upon the Riot-Act, and executed in sight of the Mughouse. To these just and seasonable Examples of wholesome Severity we may ascribe the final Ruin of Mob-archy. 'Tis to this the Citizens owe the Tranquillity they have since enjoy'd. And as they are therefore under the strongest Obligations of Love to his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, who was then our Happy Guardian in the King's Absence; so we are all bound by infinite Ties of Gratitude, as well as Duty, to his most Excellent Majesty, for the Continuance of his Royal Protection to the Mughouses in general, and more especially for extending his gracious Bounty to two of them in particular, as a Reward for their signal Zeal and Sufferings from rebellious Mobs; which, I trust, will never more be our Masters.

S. WHATELY.

THE
MUG
Vindicated, &c.

THE Pamphlet to which this is design'd as an Answer, having occasion'd very different Speculations amongst its Readers, I was in Suspence, for some Time, whether it was worth while to undertake this Trouble, or not; but most Persons being of Opinion with my self, that 'twas writ with a *Mischievous* Intent, and levell'd to the Capacities of the Populace, who are looner affected by pompous Words than solid Sense, I was at length determin'd to take it in Hand, in order to prevent the evil Effect it might probably have on those for whose Use it seems purposely calculated. And I shall not scruple to give the Author his due, by owning, that tho' what he is pleas'd to call *Reasons*, do scarce deserve to come under that Denomination; yet I verily believe, they are the best that he, or any one else, as Things now stand, is capable of producing

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for

for the Suppression of the *Mag-Houses*. Nor do I think it concerns me at all to enquire into his Name or Character, it being a Rule with me, that whatever bears the Face of Reason or Argument, ought to be regarded as such, as well when it comes from a *Porter*, or a *Double-Japaner*, as from *Sir John*, or his *Lordship*: And therefore, without any further *Proemium*, I shall fall to the Work.

Sir H. being conscious of the extraordinary Influence the Clergy have over the ignorant *Lairy*, and consequently how serviceable their Interest must be to his Design, cunningly enough takes care to dedicate his *Performance* to those who reside in and about the City of *London*, tho', I presume, he means such of 'em only as are of his own *Kidney*; for he tells them, that the Reason of his dedicating it to them, was, *because there is little more in it than what he has, at different Times, heard from their own Mouths*. Now I am certain, that many worthy Gentlemen of that venerable Order are so far from having talk'd like our Author, that they often honour us with their Presence at our several Societies, and have heartily declar'd their Approbation of them. As for the others upon whose Acquaintance he so much blesses himself, I freely congratulate him upon his good Luck in being admitted to their Favour, and much good may it do the Heart of him; but, I confess, for my own part, I had rather by Odds, keep Company with a few honest Lay-men, than such Divines whose Knowledge in their Profession is not sufficient to teach them Obedience to their Superiors; and the Compliment he makes his

Patrons

Patrons is at best but very indifferent, since he represents them warmly inveighing against what the Government has thought fit to protect and encourage.

I see nothing more in the *Dedication* worth Notice, only the last Paragraph, where he says, *The favourable Reception my former Labours have met with, from your Cloth in particular, makes me hope for your Patronage at this Time, &c.* I know not what his former Labours may be, but if they are no better than his later ones, I dare say the Reception they met with from other Men was not very favourable, whatever it might be from some of that Cloth; and I am thoroughly perswaded, that what he has done now will be but *Labour in Vain*. And whereas he declares, *he is desirous of nothing more than to prove himself a true Son of the Church*, surely he can't be ignorant that there is an easier Way of doing so, than by writing for it, and in which, if I mistake not, he is much better vers'd, I mean to *Swear, Drink and Lye for the Church*; which if a Man does lustily, and with all his Heart, he need not fear being esteem'd by some People a very worthy Member of it.

I come now to the Book it self, which begins in a very flourishing Manner. *The World*, says Sir H. may perhaps be surpriz'd to hear, at this Time of Day, from an Author who has been so long silent. One would imagine by this, that he was no inconsiderable Person; but the Grandure he affects looks so awkwardly upon him, and he so jily becomes it, that I wish we don't find him a Cheat in the End: and I have a strong Suspicion, that Sir H. will at last dwindle

He into a Gentleman that writes for a Belly full.
 However, since he sets out with that Name, I
 shall not give him the Uneasiness of calling
 him by any other. *The World he surpris'd*. I
 can't conceive why the World should be fur-
 pris'd except, twice as the Impudence and
 Silliness of the Author in pretending to direct our
 Legislators or in imagining that he was able to
 produce any thing worthy the Consideration
 of a British Parliament. How long he has been
 silent is best known to himself and his Pa-
 trons; but I think he was very imprudent to
 come out this Season, unless he had been sure of
 something to offer, which might be more to
 the Purpose than what is to be met with in
 this Piece.
 He proceeds. *Some Persons I know are ready*
to ascribe my not appearing in Publick ever since
the late great Turn of Affairs, to a dastardly Concern
of their going in contrary to my Inclinations, and to a
Reluctance of their ever reverting. What sort of
 Persons those are, who will be at the Pains
 to assign a Reason for his Non-appearance, I
 know not. But if I were to speak my Mind,
 I should be apt to say, That the Change of
 the Times had, in earnest, made some Impres-
 sion upon him, and hinder'd the free Exercise
 of his Faculty; otherwise, certainly, so bright
 a Genius as he would soon be thought, must
 have pick'd up in all that while, what might
 send him any way or other to the Emolument of
 the Publick; for he now confesses, he has
 not oblig'd the World with anything ever
 since the late great Turn of Affairs, by which
 he is oblig'd to leave the late Queen,

Queen, and the Accession of his present Majesty to the Throne.

But Sir H. will not, upon any Account, allow this to be the Cause of his Silence, and therefore informs such as think so, that they are extremely mistaken: for, says he, *Nemo deservit melius, inquit, in the Lesson I have constantly recited on all my Acquaintance.* A courageous Man this! he still retains some Hopes; there are yet a few Tokens of Life: But, alas! 'tis merely owing to the Cordial he sucks from this poor Latin Axiom, that his Heart is not quite broke. The High Church Clergy, whom he owns to be the best part of his Acquaintance, are without question extremely oblig'd to him for the comfortable Lesson he so constantly taught them, being more than they could find in the Holy Scriptures; and 'tis not unlikely that 'twas by these Means he contracted so great a Merit amongst em, which partly lets us into the Secret of what those former Labours were, they so graciously receiv'd. And the Motto, quoth he, of this great Man who put the Broad Seal on the late Glorious Peace is still my Comfort. The Motto he speaks of is, *Le bon tems viendra*: But what are those blessed Times he thus expects and wishes for? Is he uneasy that he has not *Wooden Shoes* to his Feet? Is Liberty, charming invaluable Liberty, a Burthen to him? Does he long for that insufferable Yoke, which Millions are groaning under, and praying Day and Night to be deliver'd from? Know, thou silly Wretch, the good, the happy Time is now approach'd, which takes from us our once too well grounded Fears of Poverty

pery and Arbitrary Power: Blessed be God, those *Halcyon Days* are come, to the unspeakable Joy of all true Protestants, and I hope to the Satisfaction of *that noble Lord* likewise: Yet let me tell our Author, it would have been no Diminution to the great *Man*, if he had never been concern'd in the Affair here mentioned, nor would his Countrymen then have had less Reason to value him as such. The late *Glorious Peace*, does he say? 'Tis amazing to me, how Sir H. can have the Front to call that a *Glorious Peace*, which both Houses of Parliament have so unanimously and so justly call'd a *Destructive* one; and which indeed as it render'd us contemptible and scandalous Abroad, so it must infallibly have made us poor and miserable at Home, had not Heaven, propitious Heaven, prevented it, by sending us a *Prince*, who is no less assiduous in studying the Welfare of his Subjects, than others have been ready to give into Measures for their Destruction.

Our Author now, before he goes any farther, begs leave (that he might not be misunderstood) to make an *Apology* for his *Title-Page*. And he's very much in the right of it; there's Need enough on't indeed; it sounds mightily upon the Grub. You are to know then, says he, that by the Words, Down with the Mug, I am far from intending to halloo the Mob, or setting them on demolishing those Houses. No, poor harmless Gentleman, nor he; he scorns any such thing. Far be the Thought from me, continues he; I think they have already carry'd that Jest a little too far, as some of them have deservedly been convinc'd by woful Experience. That they have already carry'd

carry'd that Jest too far, is too true to make a Jest of it: and that some of them have deservedly been convinc'd by woful Experience, can't be deny'd. 'Tis well our Author had Sense enough to take Warning: But I observe he seems to use the Term *deservedly*, on account of their Folly and Indiscretion rather than their Sin; for he tells us that *indeed he was always of Opinion with Ovid, that,*

*Stultus ab obliquo qui cum discedere possit,
Pugnat in adversas ire Natator aquas.*

So that here he begins to despair again, and does not dare to venture against the Stream, lest he should be carried away with the Current. By which he gives us to understand however, that he has Prudence enough to save his own Bacon, and to take due care of One. But 'tis apparent, that it is owing to the great Aversion Sir H. has to Hemp, more than to a conscientious Fear of the Guilt, that he has been restrain'd from plundering his Neighbours, and performing the Part of a Captain-Tem on all convenient Occasions.

Our Author now proceeds to his main Design, which is to offer some Reasons for the suppressing of those tumultuous Assemblies call'd Mug-Houses. Well, let's hear him. In the first place then, says he, I affirm, that the practising such violent Measures will not be the way to bring over the Disaffected Part of the People, but on the contrary must unavoidably confirm them in their Obstinacy. Did Sir H. really believe one Word of this, I am perswaded he would have continued his Silence, forbore crying out against the Mug, and prevented

vented me of doing what I am about. *Such violent Measures?* Good God! does he call repelling Force by Force, *violent Measures?* Would he have us stand still whilst his unmerciful and ungodly Rabble knock us on the Head, break our Windows, nay, pull down our Houses, and ride us of our Substance? Has the base Creature forgot that this has often been the Case, when Thousands of Rebellious Villains travers'd the Streets, crying, *High-Church and Ormond for ever?* Again, Shall *Tories* and *Papists* meet about to cabal, talk Treason, and vent their Malice against a King, whose Air they are not worthy to breathe, and on whose Ground they deserve not to tread? And shall those honest Subjects, who meet for no other Reason than to testify their Loyalty, and publicly declare their Obligations to the Government under which they live, be deny'd the Liberty of doing so? I never heard, nor did any body else, of the least *Violence* us'd by the *May House* Gentlemen, till they had been first *violently* attack'd. 'Tis true, should such an one as Sir H. go into either of their Societies, and with rude Language saucily refuse to be conformable to their innocent Customs, I fancy they would be apt to use as much Violence as was necessary to make him know the Discipline of the Blanket, and kick him down Stairs when they had done, even without Regard to his *Chevaliership*. But can they be blam'd for this? Is it any more than every private Company would do upon the like Provocation. I defy him to produce an Instance of any one Man (be his Principles what

what they will) that ever went to either of the Mag. Houses about Town, and behaved himself civilly there, but was treated with the greatest good Manners and most perfect good Humour. But if, on the contrary, a Man will impudently run into such a numerous Society with the sole Intent of affronting and abusing them, they must take what will follow, and thank themselves for it.

This I think sufficient by way of Answer to our Author's first Reason, which is indeed no more than a bold Affirmation, tho' he afterwards goes about to prove it; but says so little to the Purpose, that it would be only wasting my own and the Reader's Time to attend him therein, especially since I have already so plainly made appear, that the Fact upon which he builds is utterly false, viz. that the Measures used by the Maggistrates are not violent, as he pretends, but what Nature it self suggests, and the Law of God and Man allow.

We now come to **SIR H's** Second Reason why the Mag. Houses ought to be suppressed, because the suffering them to continue has in the Nature of the Thing, a direct Tendency to the increasing of a Party, and the increasing of a Party is dangerous to the Liberty of the People, and therefore they ought to be suppressed. To which I answer, The suffering them to continue has indeed, in the Nature of the Thing, a direct Tendency to the keeping up and increasing of a Party, and therefore they ought to be suppressed for it. But then, in such a Party without which our Liberty, our Property, our Lives and Estates would soon be in Danger, such

a Party as always oppos'd *Rome* and its *Tyranny*; such a Party to whom is owing the peaceable Enjoyment of our holy Religion; in a word, such a Party of which are all those noble Patriots who have the Honour to be employ'd by his Sacred Majesty King *GEORGE*, the Spring and Fountain of our present Happiness. And can any thing be more absurd or ridiculous than to say 'tis destructive to a State, that those Members should be protected who are ready to hazard their *All* for its Interest and Safety? On the other Hand, is it not necessary for the *Security* of the State, that those who are for molesting them in the Prosecution of the commendable Purposes, which their Loyal Zeal puts them upon, should be severely punish'd, as most inveterate Enemies to the Society?

But how does he prove, that the *Mug-Houses* tend to keep up Party Feuds and Differences amongst us? Why truly, he gives you an Instance of it; I would have you consider, says he, that we have often heard of *Cavalier and Roundhead, Whig and Tory, High-Church and Low, Jacobite and Williamite*; but who ever heard of a *Muggite* till within this Twelve-month? Well, and what then? Just as if there were not Distinctions enough before, without studying to find out new ones. Was there ever so heavy a Tool as this *Knight*? Because the Whigs have added one poor innocent Word to our Language, they have been guilty of a greater Crime with him, than if they had coin'd the current Money of the Kingdom. He goes on in the same dull Strain. But we may now see (says he) that the People who would be thought to

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wish that our Divisions were healed, and who insinuate a Willingness to reduce all the Names of Distinction to that common one of Protestant, are most diligent in promoting the first, and endeavour to multiply the Number of the last. We may now see indeed, that the Word *Muggite* sticks very hard in Sir H's Gizzard, and that he can't tell how to be reconcil'd to it. But he may stamp, fret, and fume, till he has spit out all his Venom, if he pleases, he shall never prevail upon us to give him up that Word, till Faction is no more. What! part with a Word which at the same time it conveys Life and Vigour to our selves, strikes a Terroure upon our Enemies! No, he may set his Heart at rest, we never will: However, to make the Gentleman as easy as possible, we readily consent to banish and forget, from this Time forward, several other Party-Names which are now grown almost obsolete and out of Date, such as *Tory*, *Jacobite*, &c. and may they sink and die with the Cause, I say with all my Spirit!

But after all, if Sir H. who assumes such an affected Displeasure at our Names of Distinction, would be so honest as to listen to the Dictates of his own Conscience, he would soon be inform'd who are really the Occasion of them; nor would he endeavour to throw it on those, who don't only insinuate a Willingness, but, I am sure, earnestly desire that they may be all reduc'd to that common one of Protestant. And were he not intolerably stupid, he would never from so trifling a Circumstance as that above mentioned, break out into such grave Exclamations, and insinuate (as he does) the

worst things that 'tis possible to charge a Par-
 ry with, by calling them *abominable Hypocrites*.
 Then he goes on. *Things are brought to a fine*
pass, says he, *that a Man's going to a Mug-*
House shall be the only Test of his Loyalty. They
 were once at a much worse pass, when the
 drinking a vile Incendiary's Health was made
 the Test of Mens Religion, and the refusing to
 pay that Respect to a worthless Fellow, who
 was a Scandal to that excellent Church of
 which he profess'd himself a Member, and
 unworthy of the Character he bore, was
 counted sufficient to denominate such an one
 a *Fanatick*, or whatever else they thought
 odious. But our Author is mistaken; the
 Times are not come to such a pass, as that a
 Man's going to a *Mug-House* shall be the only
 Test of his Loyalty: For tho' That is a
 strong Evidence of it, yet if he and his pro-
 fligate Gang, would give us any other good
 Test of their being well-affected to King
 GEORGE and the present Establishment, we
 could gladly excuse them from going to a
Mug-House, and shake Hands with them as
 Friends notwithstanding. He adds a little
 lower, *None, forsooth, can be Loyal without being*
Loud. We have known the Time when those
 who pretend they are Loyal, but refuse to
 shew it by Loudness, have been immoderately
 Loud without shewing their Loyalty. And
 whereas Sir H. is pleas'd by this and what
 follows, which hints at a *late Procession*, to re-
 present those that were concern'd in it as a
 noisy ignorant Rabble, I must observe to him,
 that tho' it must be own'd they appear'd more
 like such in this, than in any thing else, and
 perhaps

perhaps acted a Part *below* themselves; yet, as the Design was commendable, and accordingly encourag'd by Persons of the best Quality, so the exact Order and due *Decorum* with which it was manag'd, plainly demonstrates, that those who attended the Figures consisted of other guess Mortals than what the *Tory* Mobs are generally made up of.

The third Reason which Sir H. brings for suppressing the *Mug-Houses*, is, That they are prejudicial to the State, by promoting *Idleness* and *Debauchery*, which if he can prove, I'll agree with him, that they ought to be discountenanced by the Civil Magistrate. But *cujus Contrarium verum est*, the very Reverse to what he asserts is apparently true. As to *Idleness*, it is certain that they never meet till Seven or Eight a Clock at Night, which is a Season when most Persons go somewhere or other to refresh themselves: And then they are so far from encouraging *Debauchery*, that, for ought I know, there is no better Method can be thought of to prevent it; for the pleasing Entertainment which is constantly to be met with at the *Mug-Houses*, keeps young Men from going into other Places (and there are too many such in this Town) where there are both Temptations and Opportunities to commit such Iniquities, as 'tis impossible for them to do in a Publick Company.

But our Anchor says, that Men being pleas'd to see great Numbers together of their own Side, are induc'd to drink more, and stay later than usual, &c. Why truly 'tis a very agreeable Sight, and what must be exceeding delightful to every good Subject; but I can't conceive there is such

such an Inconveniency attending it, as he speaks of: For I know it to be a Custom in several of the Societies, to break up at Eleven a Clock; and their Liquor being nothing but Ale, 'tis very unlikely they should drink a great deal too much of it in so short a Time. Some imagine, says he, that their honest Zeal in appearing for the Government Abroad, will sufficiently atone for starving their Families at Home. Now this, if it be a Fault, is a Fault of the right Side however: It shews a generous Spirit, and a noble Benevolence towards Mankind, that they can neglect their own private Affairs on the Prospect of doing Service to the Publick, and readily sacrifice the former to the latter. Had some Men who made greater Figures in the four last Years Reign, been actuated by the same Principle, there would have been no need of *Mug-Houses* at this Day.

Sir H. concludes this Head with observing, That 'tis customary for those Persons, after they are satiated with muddy uninspiring Ale, to adjourn to the neighbouring Midnight-Taverns, where they finish their Debauch, &c. Now 'tis not unusual, I confess, for Gentlemen to adjourn to a Tavern for the sake of dispatching Business, which can't so well be done at the other Places. But supposing there should be any who make it a Custom to adjourn to Taverns in order to finish their Debauch, as he calls it, 'tis very easy to recriminate; and I don't think it concerns me at all to answer for the Conduct of particular Persons, who would be nevertheless Rakes, were it not for those Societies; besides, I never heard that the *Muggites*

aim'd to be thought more *Religious* than their Neighbours. And whereas the Knight is pleas'd to reflect on their Liquor as *muddy and uninspiring*, I would have him to know, that by the help of this same *English Ale*, they have always had Courage enough to encounter and put to Flight a *Jacobite Mob*, tho' never so numerous; and perhaps too, it has inspir'd some of them with as many good Things as his *French Wine* has, him.

Another Argument which our Author urges as a Reason for suppressing the *Mug-Houses*, is, That they have already produc'd a great many evil Effects, and, in all probability, will produce as many more, if they are suffer'd to continue. Now one would expect Sir H. to be more prolix than ordinary in reckoning up those evil Effects; but instead of that, which is very strange, he only endeavours to raise the Passions of his Readers, by representing the dismal Case of those that were shot at the *Roe-Buck*, whilst attempting to pull down the House, and threatening to kill the Persons therein; and also those that were hang'd at *Salisbury-Court*: Whereas every considerate impartial Man must confess, that they all brought this Misfortune upon themselves; the former, by putting those that destroy'd them under a Necessity of doing so, for their own Preservation; and the latter, for having violated the Law; and such a Violation it was, as richly deserv'd the Punishment. So that this Gentleman tacitly owns himself, that the *Mug-Houses* have not produc'd any evil Effects; since if they had, he would not have fail'd, for his own Credit sake, to name them

them in this Place; which he has not done. And therefore we may reasonably hope, that the Faction will forbear crying out against those Loyal Societies; at least, till they are able to prove they do any manner of Harm. And 'tis but too visible, that the Noise they have hitherto made about them, proceeded altogether from a Conscienceless of their having been very servicable to that Government which they wish to have subverted.

I am now come to the last (and which Sir H. thinks the *most* urgent) Reason why the *Mug-Houses* ought to be put down, and that is, *Because they were first set up by a notorious Dissenter.* Were there not a visible Mixture of Malice in every thing that comes from this Gentleman's Pen, one would be apt to take his whole Performance for a mere Banter; but, I presume, he finds his Ends in't, and that so superficial a way of Writing, is the best Method by which to catch the unwary Vulgar. Wherefore I shall not refuse to bestow as serious an Answer to this, as I have already done to his foregoing Reasons. There is no Necessity for my enquiring, whether his Intelligence be true or false as to this Point. But granting it true, that they were set up by a notorious Dissenter; Does it follow from thence, that therefore they ought to be put down? The Question is, whether they be really of Service to the State, or not? If they be, 'tis not a Button odds who set them up. And this Gentleman is very unkind to the Dissenters, that he won't give Them even what 'tis thought unjust to deny the Devil; *viz. their Deserts.* If a Dissenter has done a good Action, why should not

not he be allow'd the Merit, and receive the Applause of it as well as another? There are a great many Cases in which it is equally in the Power of a Churchman and Dissenter to be beneficial to the *State*, without having any Relation to the *Church*, of which kind, no doubt, is that before us. And I believe, if we look back to the late Rebellion, we shall find none that exerted themselves with greater Vigour in their Persons, or that more readily assisted with their Purses towards the quelling it, than the Dissenters: And therefore 'tis an Insinuation for which the Writer deserves to be pull'd by the Nose, to say, that *'Tis true, we have not heard that many of this sort of People (i. e. the Dissenters) were concern'd in the late Rebellion, since he very well knows there was not one. But then, says he, why was that? Because every thing went according to their Hearts Desire. What Things went according to their Hearts Desire? 'Tis true, 'twas very comfortable to 'em to think that their Liberty should be continued, of worshipping their God from whom they expected Salvation, in a Manner they believ'd would best please him. But do they enjoy more Privileges, or greater Advantages under King GEORGE's Administration, than what are common to his Protestant Subjects? Have they receiv'd any peculiar Favours from his Majesty? Nay, isn't it notorious, that they yet labour under the same Inconveniencies as in the Queen's Time? Are they not still liable to pay Taxes, and undergo all Burthenfome Posts and Employments, without a Possibility of possessing any of the Profitable ones? But all this won't content*

our Author; he is still uneasy that those People are not put upon the Rack, and tortur'd to Death for the sake of a good Conscience. Had he any Notion of Christianity himself, or were he toucht with the charming Sentiments That inspires, he would never wish such inexpressible Anguish to Thousands of its zealous Professors, as the not being suffer'd to practise it in their own Way would certainly give them.

Sir H. proceeds to ask several impertinent Questions, which it would be almost as impertinent in me to answer, and then grows wonderfully *bright* all on a sudden; for he fills a considerable Part of his Page with *Asterisks*, intimating thereby, that he had abundance more to say, but was afraid to speak out, lest it might render him Obnoxious to the Government. After this Chasm comes the following Paragraph: *The Person whom I nam'd above, to have made himself infamous for being the Founder of the Mug-Houses, is, I am told, a Lawyer of the Middle-Temple; but how he can be said to act like one whilst he promotes Riots and Tumults, I can't imagine, unless he be suppos'd to do it on the Score of bringing Grist to the Mill.* Now the Person here intended, I am perswaded, feels so great a Pleasure arising from the inward Satisfaction of having done all that lay in his Power for the Service of his Country, that he is above being Subject to any Mortification or Uneasiness at what the Malice or Ill-nature of this Author can suggest. And he is so far from having promoted the *Mug-houses* on the Score of *bringing Grist to the Mill*, as Sir H. would suppose, that he was well

well assur'd, at the Beginning, it would have a quite different Effect; and I dare say thus much for him, if there were not a likelihood of more *Grist* being brought from other Quarters than this, he might as well take down his *Mill*, for the Custom it would have had.

Our Author having remember'd the Founder of these Societies, comes now to take Notice that they could not have been propagated with so much Success, nor subsisted so long, if they had not been espous'd by the Flying-Post, a Paper, says he, *which has no Credit with any but such as boast of their Affections to the present Government.* He is right here: That Paper has certainly been serviceable to the *Mug-Houses*, as it always was, in the worst of Times, to the Cause of Liberty; when the severest Threats could not deter the Author of it from doing what he thought his Duty, nor any Promises influence him to write contrary to That, or the Principles he profess; which Integrity and Stedfastness in this Respect, as it gain'd him the Displeasure of those then in Power that were Enemies to the *Hannover Succession*, so 'twas follow'd with such Prosecutions as oblig'd him to leave his Country and lose his Substance. If Sir H. means by what he says above, "That this Paper has no Credit with any, but such as are well affected to the present Government," he has made rather a Panegyrick than a Satyr upon that Author; it being, I'm confident, his whole Desire and Aim to please such: And I hope they are not so despicable a Party as this Gentleman would imagine.

And now Sir H. thinks fit to mention the Objections which he pretends to have heard rais'd against the *Mug-Houses*, even by some zealous Whigs with whom he accidentally convers'd. But the Objections they make are so feeble, that I doubt those zealous Whigs, as he calls them, are false Brethren. One says he, *complains the Societies are too Naïf*. If he thinks so, the best way is for him not to go to them; probably they may not be so agreeable to his Age and peevish Temper, but that's no Reason why others should be depriv'd of the innocent Mirth they love. Another, says our Author, *owns, that they only serve to keep up Party Animosities*. This has been answer'd already, as more naturally coming from the Mouth of a Tory, and therefore I shall pass it. But then Sir H. brings in a third weak Brother as saying, *There's no need of Mug-Houses, now we have a numerous Royal Family, a strong Alliance, a Whig-Ministry, Low-Church Bishops, a Protestant Standing Army, and a peaceable Populace*. Why really these are great Securities to a State, and such as Great Britain has not enjoy'd all together ever since the Reformation; but I think I have now a very strong Plea put into my Hands for the Continuance of the *Mug-Houses*. For I desire the Reader to remember, that so great was the Insolence of the Papists abroad, and so strong the Infatuation of the deluded Mob at home, that in the Year 1710, tho' we had such a King and Royal Family, such a Ministry and such Bishops, yet a monstrous and desperate Rebellion was fomented and carry'd on without any Provocation, or the least Grounds. And if this will

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not weigh with all Men of Sense, I would have them consider, that even now, tho' the late Rebellion was so effectually suppress'd, and tho' the Government has the additional Barrier of a *Supremacy* Parliament, and a Protestant Standing Army, yet the same Party have contriv'd, and are now carrying on against it, a Second and more desperate Conspiracy than the last; of which they have the Assurance to boast, as back'd with such a foreign Power as is insuperable.

Our Author hugs himself, and is mightily pleas'd that *some of the most eminent Clergy* so well agree with him in his Sentiments; as to bring in a *Warrant* against the *Mug-houses*; and who should these eminent Clergymen be, but Mr. L-----, and a Country Curate; the one, it seems, in his Sermon on the 30th of January, compar'd them to the *Calves-Head-Club* (whom perhaps some will count a *Calves-Head* for his Pains,) and the other, on the same Day, call'd them *Nurseries of Faction and Party*. I shall only acquaint both those Gentlemen, that they would shew themselves better Subjects of the King, to whom they swore, by preaching more against *Jacobite Conventicles*, and less against the *Mug-Houses*.

Sir H. concludes his Performance with a *Mug-House Song*, which was composed, as he has been inform'd, by an eminent Presbyterian Teacher, and a noted Dealer in many Words, which he inserts as a *Specimen of their insipid Wit*. The Gentleman here pointed at, is so well known for his extraordinary Parts and Accomplishments, added to those which he possesses as a *Divine*, that all I can say in his Behalf will be needless.

needless. Whether he was the Author of that Song, or not, I can't tell; but if he be, I see no Reason he has to be ashamed of it, since as there is nothing that is inconsistent with his Character, so it will afford very good Entertainment to any one who has a Taste for true Wit or just Sarcry.

Thus I have now given an Answer to every thing in our Author's Performance which I thought any wise deserv'd it, and I hope to the full Satisfaction of the ingenious Reader ; but the following Address, which was made at His Majesty's Return to His Dominions, being of it self, a sufficient Vindication of the *Mug-Houses*, I can do no less than communicate it to the Publick.

To the KING's most Excellent Majesty,

The Humble ADDRESS of the Presidents and Members of the several Loyal Societies of the MUG-HOUSES in London, Westminster, and the Suburbs.

Most Gracious SOVEREIGN,

AS We thought it a Duty incumbent on us, to form our selves into Societies of this Kind, for propagating Loyalty, during the late Unnatural Rebellion against Your most Sacred Person and Happy Government; so we are now prompted by the same honest Zeal, to take this Occasion of demonstrating the ardent Joys with which our Hearts abound, on Your Majesty's safe and peaceable Return to Your Kingdoms, being what we have so unanimously and so unfeignedly wish'd for at our constant Meetings. But we should yet want the Boldness to approach Your Majesty, were we not farther animated thereto, by the just Sense we have of that Uncommon Wisdom and Goodness, which always disposes Your Majesty to accept the sincere Services of the Meanest of Your Subjects.

'Tis not with any Intent to detract from the Zeal and Merit of the Magistracy of this well-govern'd City, or to extol our own, when we presume to tell Your Majesty, that we could not bear to see Mobs and Tumults continually filling the Streets, and even bidding Defiance to the best of Governments, without making a Stand against them: Nor
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can we but wish Pleasurs observe, that none of Your Royal Predecessors possess those Qualifications which are necessary to so important a Trust, equal with Your Majesty; so none of ~~the~~ Subjects ever enter into Measures like these for the suppressing of Faction. And that our Attempt has some Measure succeeded, we are ready to appeal both to the poor deluded Wretches who occasion'd it, and to those of our Friends who did not think fit to joyn us; the former, we know, must acknowledge it to their Sorrows, and the latter, we believe, will scarce pretend to deny it.

We humbly beg Leave to acquaint Your Majesty, that as the Loyal (and therefore laudable) Design upon which our Society were founded, viz. the Suppression of unruly and disaffected Mobs, is now, God be thanked, fully answer'd; we hope there will be no farther Necessity for repeating the Chastisement they so justly deserv'd at our Hands. But if the Wicked Spirit of our Adversaries should again break out with the like Fury in these Cities, we shall be ready with redoubled Indignation to exert our selves for that Glorious Cause in which we at first so freely engaged, and count it the highest Honour to hazard our Lives and Fortunes for Your most Excellent Majesty, who was the happy Instrument Heaven it self made use of to secure them both to us, and whose numerous Royal Offspring administers the delightful Prospect of having the same invaluable Blessings of Liberty, securely convey'd to latest Posterity.